



# The Call Box

Official Publication of the Retired Seattle Police Officers Association



September, 2022 Volume 3, Issue 5

## A Conversation with Sergeant Joe Sanford #1896

**Q. Where were you born and where did you grow up?**

A. A small filbert farm in Winlock Washington.

**Q. Where did you attend High School and when did you graduate?**

A. I graduated from Winlock High School in 1953.

**Q. What did you do before being hired by SPD?**

A. I was employed as a truck driver for Weyerhaeuser Timber Company.

**Q. What made you want to be a police officer?**

A. The excitement and the chance to help people.

**Q. When you were hired, did you go to the academy right away?**

A. January 2, 1959, I started the academy on the same day.

**Q. What was your academy class number and where was the academy held?**

### Class Thirty-Nine

*First row:* Lt. P. C. Leland (Director), E. Bisson, C. Hendrickson, R. Stallman, R. Andersen, F. Espinoza, D. Brazel, B. Thompson, T. Burns, J. Sanford, W. Stewart, C. Kennon, Sgt. D. Phillips. *Second row:* J. Farrell, D. Doering, W. Dutcher, W. Hingtgen, J. Tolliver, B. Baughman, J. Tershin, K. Devaney, F. Jones, R. Wegner, T. Caldwell, C. Parkes, H. Schneider. *Third row:* R. Ottersen, G. Sorensen, J. Cordas, R. Trebon, C. Scheuffele, J. Seil, A. George, C. Lambert, D. Cameron, L. Coney, R. Johnson, G. Miller, R. Noble, J. Ehli, R. Carroll.



Officer Joe Sanford helps an injured child at an accident scene.



# The Call Box



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# President's Message

By Jerry Taylor, President, RSPOA



September is here already. Where did the summer go? This has been a difficult year thus far. The principal reason is the continued impact of all the anti-police rhetoric and action. It angers one to see their life's work devalued in such an evil manner. I guess we can just say it was a great time while we were there.

On the bright side.....LEOFF Plan 1 members will be eligible for a one-time lump-sum benefit equal to \$100 per service credit month earned by the member. The benefit will be payable by Jan. 31, 2023. Those members who retire with a line-of-duty disability will receive a one-time lump-sum benefit equal to \$100 per service credit month or \$20,000, whichever is greater. (Service credit month means how many months you worked. You can find that number under your account on the DRS website. See how to establish an account login at the end of this article.) If a LEOFF Plan 1 member dies after this law is effective, but before the distribution of the lump-sum benefit takes place, the distribution will be made to their designated beneficiaries. DRS will contact affected members, retirees, or beneficiaries later this summer regarding distribution options.

For LEOFF Plan 2 retired members, the benefit is essentially the same except that recent retirees may have some other options for benefit payment. See <https://www.drs.wa.gov/leoff-benefit-enhancements/> for more information.

A serious reminder.....A spouse of a LEOFF I member, whom she married after his retirement, just learned that her husband, for whatever reason, failed to register her with DRS for a survivor benefit in the LEOFF I Retirement System. The husband died recently and his spouse is not qualified for the pension. The statute is very clear: "A member who is married after retirement and wants to sign up their spouse for a survivor benefit in the LEOFF Retirement System must wait one year. After the first anniversary he/she has one year before the second anniversary to register his/her spouse for the survivor benefit." We notified the RSPOA members when we had the bill introduced that allowed spousal coverage when married after retirement. Notices were sent to all our members and were circulated by the Pension Office, LEOFF1.Net and others about this significant benefit enhancement. Again, on several occasions we reminded our members of the time frame requirements. Even after all the efforts made to notify folks, there have been those who either ignored, were not reached with a notification, or chose not to act to include their spouse. So, we again got the law opened to allow those who missed the enrolment window to register. Again, we circulated notices. Still, there are some who did not take advantage of the offer when it was available. The



A. Academy class #39 was held in the Public Safety Building.

**Q. Who were some of your academy classmates?**

A. Ron Noble, Tom Caldwell, and Jack Seil.

**Q. As an officer, what were some of your assignments and which ones did you enjoy the most?**

A. Working Vice and Narcotics undercover. For a kid just off the farm and into the big city, dropping into that environment was very exciting.

**Q. Who were some of your partners and some of your supervisors?**

A. Herb Swindler, Clark Elster, Jack Seil.

**Q. When did you get promoted to Sergeant?**

A. 1968

**Q. As a Sergeant what were some of your assignments and which one did you enjoy best?**

A. Wah Mee Massacre, Narcotics, Homicide & Robbery

**Q. Can you tell us about a few memorable calls/cases that you handled?**

A. Wah Mee Massacre, 13 people were bound and executed by 3 serial killers. In solving the case, the intelligence we gathered ended up solving several other killings as well. The Goldmark Killings, the Suspect killed a whole family that was prominent in the community, among the victims were young children.

**Q. What is the best advice you ever received as a young officer?**

A. Keep your eyes open and your mouth shut.

**Q. Who were some people on the department that you looked up to and respected?**

A. Bob Holter and John Grey.

**Q. Who was your favorite police Chief and why?**

A. Jimmie Lawrence and Frank Ramon. I liked them because they came down to your level and related to you as one of the guys.

**Q. What did you do when you retired?**

A. Worked 6 years as a Municipal Court Marshal, worked on private cases involving the Japanese High State Priest supervising more than 800 Sokagagi parishes all over the Nation of Japan.

**Q. Looking back over your career, is there anything you would have done differently?**

A. No.

**Q. Any advice that you would give to a young person today thinking about a career in policing?**

A. Always follow policy and listen to your sergeant.

**Q. What do you enjoy doing now? (hobbies, activities, etc.)**



(L-R, Top) Herb Swindler, Clark Elster, Joe Sanford  
(L-R Bottom) Admin "Beverly ?" & Pat Murphy

# FROM THE PENSION OFFICE

1. The SPMA contract is settled. The Pension Office has not received the final salary schedule from Labor Relations. When the final schedule arrives, the Pension Office will calculate the impact and SPMA retiree's excess benefits payments.

2. SPOG is in active negotiations with the City. Settlement is estimated to be late next year.

3. The RAP Picnic was held on August 25th, 2022, at the Nile. Forty attendees enjoyed the good food, great fellowship, and unwanted white elephant prizes. Hank Gruber and Heidi Butz won the Bocce Ball contest. The runner up team was Nick Bulpin and John Nordlund.

4. ATTENTION: LEOFF1 Retirees – If you are currently using an “Out of Network” dental provider, your dental benefits max out much faster because the pension fund is paying double in most cases for your dental services. This is due to no contracts with DDWA from the dentist. If you max out your benefits, then you pay any cost out of pocket. We strongly encourage you to use a Delta Dental (DDWA) network dentist. If you are interested in saving the fund extra expenses, as well as your own pocket book, please reach out to Delta Dental of WA for help in help finding an in network provider at 1-800-554-1907 or go on line: [www.DeltaDentalWA.com](http://www.DeltaDentalWA.com). If you need additional assistance, please reach out to Jan @ 206-348-7369.



## Last Ring



**Bob Moffett #2098**, retired Seattle Police Motorcycle Officer, passed away on February 19, 2022, at the age of 88.

Hired: 12-28-60, Class: #43, Assignments: Patrol, Central, Traffic Motors, SPOG President. Retired: 7-12-85, 29 years of service. Bob is survived by his wife of 36 years, Patricia, seven children, nine grandchildren and fifteen great grandchildren. Both his first-born child, daughter Pam, and his second-born child, daughter Sandra, preceded him in death.



## Last Ring



**Nat Crawford #1931**, retired Seattle Police Homicide Detective, passed away on February 23, 2022, at the age of 87.

Hired: 3-27-59, Class: #40, Assignments: Patrol Central, Traffic Motors, Homicide, Accident Investigations, Burglary. Retired: 1-11-84, 24 years of service. Nat is survived by his wife of 65 years, Geri, son Scott, daughters Colleen, Cheryl, Cathie and Gail, nine grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

**Jim Cvar #2686**, retired Seattle Police Patrolman, passed away on March 13, 2022, at the age of 77.

Hired: 10-4-69, Class: #61, Assignments: East Central, West Central, Wallingford, PSB “Hole Crew.” Retired: 11-10-93, 26.5 years of service. Jim is survived by his wife of almost 47 years, Mary Sue, son Joe and daughter Veronica.

**Rand Hannon #2719**, retired Seattle Police Patrol Officer, passed away on March 25, 2022, at the age of 77.

Hired: 6-27-67, Class: #54, Assignments: Patrol Central, East, West, and North Precincts. West Pct “Hole Crew.” Retired: 11-11-97, 30+ years of service. Rand is survived by his wife of 27 years, Cathy, sons Brian, Kerry and Eric.

**Dave Buff #3481**, retired Seattle Police Patrolman, passed away on April 9, 2022, at the age of 84.

Hired: 1970, Class: #66, Assignments: Patrol South and Central Precincts. Retired: 9-25-93, 23 years of service. Dave is survived by his wife of 55 years, Deborah, daughter Heather, son Adam and three grandchildren.

**Doug Dills #3326**, retired Seattle Police Captain, passed away on April 13, 2022, at the age of 79.

Hired: 1-6-70, Class: #66, Assignments: Patrol South, Burglary, promoted to Sgt in 1979, SPOG President, Training, promoted to Lieutenant in 1983, East Precinct, Budget & Policy, Aide to Chief of Police, promoted to Captain in 1989, Property Crimes, North Precinct, Training Director. Retired: 1-16-98, 28 years of service. Doug is survived by his wife of 48

years, Renee, two daughters Amanda and Nicole and two grandchildren.

**Dave Sorensen #3441**, retired Seattle Police Narcotics Detective, passed away on April 25, 2022, at the age of 79.

Hired: 7-17-70, Class: #65, Assignments: Patrol & Narcotics. Retired: 2-20-81, 11 years of service. Daughter Robin preceded Dave in death. He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Joanne, daughters Lisa and Angela, son Jeb, seven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

**Stan Schumacher #2672**, retired Seattle Police Lieutenant, passed away on May 14, 2022, at the age of 81.

Hired: 2-7-67, Class: #53. Assignments: Wallingford, promoted to Sergeant in 1982, West Pct., promoted to Lieutenant in 1985, Communications, Personnel. Retired: 9-30-90, 23 years of service. Stan's wife of 34 years, Ardyce, and one grandchild preceded him in death. He is survived by his son Jim, daughter Susan, six grandchildren, his second wife of seven years, Joyce, and her adult children Ed, Cathy and Colleen.

**Duane Lewis #3305**, retired Seattle Police Detective, passed away on May 17, 2022, at the age of 75.

Hired: 1-2-70, Class: #62, Assignments: Patrol East Central, TAC squad, Patrol South Pct., Narcotics, Training, Fugitive, Retired: 1-11-95, 25 years of service. Duane is survived by his wife of 21 years, Ronda, four daughters and seven grandchildren.

**Frank Jones #1885**, retired Seattle Police Captain, passed away on May 18, 2022, at the age of 88.

Hired: 1-2-59, Class: #39, Assignments: Patrol, Traffic Motors, Burglary, Vice, promoted to Sergeant in 1969, Wallingford, Safety Unit, promoted to Lieutenant in 1975, North Pct, Narcotics, promoted to Captain in 1981, Metro Section. North Pct. Retired: January, 1984, 25 years of service. Frank was preceded in death by his wives, Marie and Kathleen, four children, including 2-year-old baby Mike, son Jeff and two daughters, Marilyn and Marcia. He is survived by two daughters, Regina and Kathleen, and several grandchildren.

**Jerry Wabschall #3074**, retired Seattle Police Detective Sergeant, passed away on May 18, 2022 at the age of 75.

Hired: 3-18-69, Class: #59, Assignments: Patrol Central Pct., South Pct., Hostage Negotiator, FTO, Training, promoted to Sergeant in 1988, East Pct., Vice, Pa-

trol South Pct. Retired: 8-4-96, 25 years of service. Jerry is survived by his wife of 40 years, Carol, daughter Roxanne, sons Archie, Scott and Robert, six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

**Jim Tagart #2207**, retired Seattle Police Sergeant and Chief of Police for Mount Vernon Police Department, passed away on May 22, 2022, at the age of 83.

Hired: 12-18-61, Class: #44, Assignments: Patrol Central Pct., Traffic Motors, Special Squad, Detectives, promoted to Sergeant in 1971, Vice. Retired: 11-17-77, 16 years of service. (became Mt. Vernon Chief of Police). Jim was preceded in death by grandson, Matt. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Marilyn, daughter Jan and sons Jim and Jeff, and two grandchildren, Mike and Mary.

#### **Wives:**

**Vera Johnson**, wife of 63 years to retired Seattle Police Detective Sergeant F. Jim Johnson #1979, passed away on June 30, 2022, at the age of 92.

**Maureen Hanson**, wife of 61 years to retired Seattle Police Motorcycle Sergeant Jack Hanson #2869, passed away on August 14, 2022, at the age of 80.

#### **Widows:**

**Evelyn Kelsie**, wife of deceased retired Seattle Police Lieutenant Emmett Kelsie #2794, passed away on May 25, 2022, at the age of 84.

**Kathleen Curtis Watson**, surviving spouse of deceased retired Seattle Police Detective Don Watson #2005, passed away on July 12, 2022, at the age of 88.

**Patricia Engel-Moffett**, wife of deceased retired Seattle Police Officer Bob Moffett #2098, passed away on July 13, 2022, at the age of 92.

Due to the large number of Last Ring Announcements, the announcements were edited. To read the complete announcements please go to:

[www.rspoa.org](http://www.rspoa.org)

*And Until We Meet Again, May God Hold You in The Palm Of His Hand.*



## RSPOA CALENDAR

Monthly Meeting Sept 14 11:30 at  
The Nile with Guest Speaker:

**Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell**



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Retired Banquet Oct 12 5pm at  
The Nile

Monthly Meeting Nov 9 1130 at  
The Nile

RAP meets every Thursday at the  
Nile, 11am.



## LEOSA Qualifications

Those retired officers who wish to maintain their LEOSA credentials are reminded of the qualification schedule. You must qualify at least once per year.

### REMAINING QUAL DATES

**Tue October 11**

**Tue Dec 13**

LEOSA lines shoot at 1000 &  
1400 at the SPD Range.

Guns must be inspected prior to going on course. Arrive at least 45 minutes early.

## THE BITTERMAN BUILDING

By Nick Bulpin, RSPOA Sec-Treasurer

The May issue of the Call Box featured an article on the demise of the SPRAG building on Eastlake Ave. Lets go back to where the Seattle Police Relief Association Guild Investment Corporation began.

In 1968, the Relief Association, Police Guild and Pension Office occupied rented office space in the Lyon

Building across from the Public Safety Building. The leaders of the Relief and Guild formed a partnership, in order to find a permanent office space for their needs. The Bitterman office building, built in 1924, was located on the southeast corner of 4th and Jefferson. It became available and a purchase was made. The first floor facing 4th Ave was used as retail space and a print company. The second floor was leased by the King County Credit Union with several months remaining on the lease. In 1971, when that lease ended, the space underwent extensive renovation, providing offices for the Relief and Hospital plan, the Guild and eventually the Pension Office. There was also room for meetings for 75 -100 people with limited cooking space. When SPRAG relocated to the Eastlake Building, the office area was occupied by the SPD Gang Unit.

The first floor, 422 4th Ave also became available and in September 1972, following extensive renovation, the Golden Gavel restaurant opened.

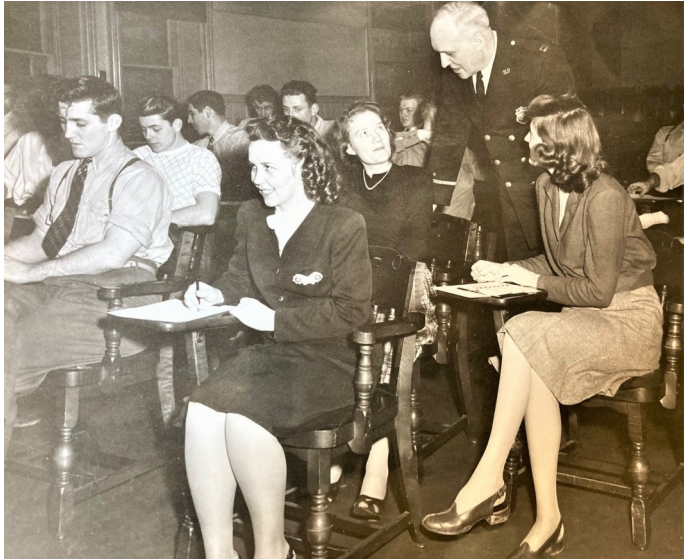
The Bitterman office building was sold in 1997 with the office area now used as homeless shelter. The Bitterman property also had a three-story apartment building adjacent to the office building. The apartment building was built in 1902 and consisted of 12 bachelor units, occupied by mostly single male retirees. The resident manager was Harry Stathos, a retired street vender known as "Harry the Hat Man" whose business was blocking and cleaning fedora hats. Harry ran a tight ship with rarely a vacancy in the building that generated about \$100.00 a month per unit. The residents voted on tenants before being accepted. The residents kept the building occupied and clean with minor repairs accomplished within. Harry decided to return to Greece to join his brother, an Orthodox priest, for his remaining years. He was replaced by John Skou, an equally effective manager. The rentals were deemed as too cheap and eventually the building vacated. After sitting vacant for an extended period it underwent major renovation with new siding, windows, roof and in 2010 was purchased by Jefferson Park Apartments for \$898,000.



## From the Police Museum

By Officer Jim Ritter, SPD Retired, #4710,  
President: Seattle Metropolitan Police Museum

### JOINING THE RANKS



Pictured here is Seattle Police Training Director Captain Emile Vallet on January 26, 1947, instructing SPD recruits at the Seattle Police Training School. These students included three policewomen who were put through the same training as their male counterparts and eventually assigned to the Women's Bureau. The Seattle Police Department was instrumental in establishing the first police training school in the nation in the 1930's and eventually began training officers from other agencies throughout the state and nation. Captain Vallet was the driving force in convincing the SPD's command staff that training was critical in establishing a professional police agency. Seattle's training model was used throughout the nation during that era and has maintained its relevance and prominence today, over 90 years after its inception. Upon Vallet's retirement in 1969 at the rank of Assistant Chief, he received a personal letter from FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, thanking him for his innovation and dedicated service to the policing profession.

If you have any vintage SPD photographs, documents, artifacts, or stories that you would like to share with the Police Museum, please contact me at #206-949-9143, or at [jamesSritter@gmail.com](mailto:jamesSritter@gmail.com).

## War Stories

By Detective Cloyd Steiger, SPD Retired, #4313

In October 2010, a little after one PM, my partner Jason Kasner and I were called to a suspicious dead body downtown on Westlake Avenue. A man lived in an upstairs apartment. Someone went to check on him and found him dead. Blood covered the inside of the unit. When we arrived, I stood in the open doorway of the apartment, examining the scene.

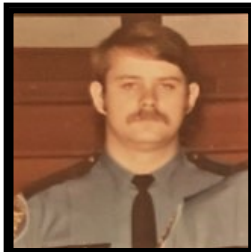
The victim lay on his bed. His throat was cut. A rolled-up bloody towel lay on the bed next to him. I couldn't see a weapon in the apartment.

Blood covered the floor. The door where I stood was the only way in or out of the apartment, except through a window, two floors above a busy downtown sidewalk. Despite the blood everywhere, there were no bloodstains out in the hall.

If someone cut this guy's throat, and it bled that much, they would have tracked blood out into the hall. The victim hadn't been dead that long—maybe a couple of hours. No one jumped out the window to the sidewalk. It was the middle of the day on a weekday. They'd have been seen.

A laundry basket, just inside the apartment door, contained clean laundry. Rolled towels like the one on the bed were inside. There was low-velocity blood spatter on the clothes in an almost-vertical pattern.

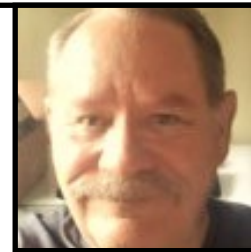
Low velocity spatter is propelled by gravity alone. It's from blood dripping from a wound. Spatter shows directionality. The droplets have a tail. That tail points in the direction from which the blood came. If the droplet doesn't have a tail in one direction, if it's stellate, with tails pointing in several directions, the source of the blood was vertical to the spatter. That's what I saw here. The victim's throat was cut, but he'd walked over to this laundry basket, leaned over it, dripping blood onto the clothes, and grabbed the towel he rolled up. He went to his bed and laid down to die. There was no struggle, and he didn't go into the hall to get help. I suspected that this man had cut his own throat. We just needed to find the weapon. Officers found the knife on the sidewalk below his window. That was the last piece of the puzzle. Elementary, my Dear Watson.



## Where Are They Now?

### ED STRIEDINGER #4311

Hired: 11-13-79 Academy Class:118 Retired: 5-16-17



#### What were some of your memorable SPD assignments and why?

Every assignment was memorable! I was very fortunate to have had great partners in patrol, like Roger Rusness, Bob Benson and Jack Meduna. I worked for some of the best Sergeants, such as Jim Deschane, George Marberg and Dan Beste. One of the earliest memories was watching Jim Deschane confront the President of the Gypsy Jokers (Roger Korff) on the front steps of their clubhouse on Ashworth Ave. N. and leaving no doubt as to who was in charge. (Can't really give details of that but suffice it to say, it was memorable.) As a detective, I worked in many units but nothing can surpass the years I spent in Homicide, first as a Detective and later being able to come back as a Sergeant. How could you top working with people like John Gray, Joe Sanford, Dave Ritter, Rudy Sutlovich, Jerry Trettevik, Hank Gruber and Al Lima? (We were, of course, kept on our toes by the real commanders of that unit, Ila Birkland, Shannon Burns and Pilar Curtis.)



**Class #118, (Top L-R) Ed Striedinger, Jerry Kempe, Dave Houk, Gregg McFadden, Tom Pike (Front L-R) Cloyd Steiger, Robin Wohl (Harshman), Steve Sparby, Tim Mollendorf, Kneeling: Tac Officer Larry Inman**

The Special Assault Unit was also a great assignment. Bill Moffatt was the Sergeant, later replaced by Kerry Gwynn. Some of the people in the unit at that time were Doug Lewis, Mark Kuehn, Jody Russell, Robin Clark, Dale Harper, Rick Buckland and Jay Mooney. I will NEVER forget the night in December, 1986 when we were attempting to catch up with "The Northend Rapist." I was riding in one of those super charged plain cars; you know, the Dodge Omni's, with Robin Clark. We heard a call of a burglary in progress at a residential development to the east of Pinehurst Way, on the other side of a greenbelt. The call said that the homeowners had the suspect in custody on their front lawn. We pulled the car to the end of a dirt road where we could see the area from a couple blocks above and to the west. A marked car pulled up behind us and K9 Officer, Steve Sparby walked up. I got out of the car and we stood there a few minutes talking. Suddenly, the suspect made a break for it and started to head our direction. I said to Steve, "Lemme cut the lights." As I leaned in to do so, I was struck from behind by Steve's partner, "Ben." Ben was the first and last Rottweiler our canine unit ever used. Ben had the back of my right thigh crushed down to what must have been the thickness of the bone. He knocked me from the driver's side of the car to in front of the front bumper. I went limp, knowing that fighting against the dog would only make things worse. Steve commanded "Out!" repeatedly, but for some reason, Ben wasn't having any of that. I could see the emergency lights of the aid car Robin had already called and could hear the siren. Ben was still on me and Steve was now on top of Ben, striking him over and over to get him to release. Finally, Ben realized that I just might not be the bad guy and relaxed his bite. Thankfully, his teeth had been filed or the damage would have been much worse. Mooney gave me the nickname "Dogmeat" that night, but fortunately the name didn't catch on.

I left Investigations behind, when I made Sergeant in 1991. I had the King Beats squad where half of my guys were on foot and the other half on bikes. Joe Brower, Larry Miller, Dick Herron, Pat Wallace, Brad Craig,



John Lewitt, Steve Olson, Pete Rossen, Dave Segarra, and Eric Besel...one hell of a team! Steve Olson came up with a surefire way to clean out Occidental Park. He would make up a concoction called “wolf bait” from a family recipe from Minnesota. I can’t tell you the ingredients but he would put this liquid in a spray bottle and walk through the park on the way to roll call. He would apply “just a bit” to the benches where the local “horns” liked to gather. By the time roll call was over, the whole park would be empty. Needless to say, this form of “Community Policing” might be frowned upon today, but it was very, very effective!

As a Lieutenant, I served as the Watch Commander for 3rd South and later retired as the Commander of the Domestic Violence Unit. As much as I want to name all those who I was honored to work with, it would take up far too much space.

I also had the distinct honor of serving in the Seattle Police Officers' Guild for two terms as President. I could not have done so without the help and mentorship of John Patrick Sullivan, Dick Rovig and Nick Bulpin. Those three cops were the heart and memory of the Guild. Every benefit we enjoy, whether active or retired, can be directly traced back to them and others that preceded their involvement.



**In 2008, SPOG honored the former Presidents by unveiling a plaque in the office. (L-R) Ed Striedinger, Bob Shilling, Mike Edwards, Ken Jakobsen, Dick Rovig, Wayne Larkin, Pat Murphy, & John Patrick Sullivan. Ed served as SPOG president from 1990-1994.**

### What do you miss most about SPD?

This is like the Miss America question that is always answered with “World Peace.” Everyone will have this same answer. “The thing I miss most about SPD is the people.” That is what makes the department. It isn’t the calls, it isn’t the paycheck or the wonderful buildings we spend out lives in, it is the people. This is what I hope every leader that follows us remembers; it’s how we treat each other, how we are there to have each other’s back, when the time comes.

## LIFE AFTER SPD:

## What did you do, where do you live?

Immediately after retiring we moved to Coulee Dam where I worked as a Captain for the Colville Tribal Police for two years. While we loved our home on the bank of the Columbia River, it turned out to be too far from the “kids.” We moved back to the West Side (referred to as “The Coast” by those east of the Cascades) in Spring 2020 and bought a home in Sumner. I’m now working as a Senior Investigator/Analyst for the Criminal Division of the AG’s office.

## Hobbies and Activities?

Spending time with family, working in the yard and playing golf. I may be the worst golfer in the world, but I do get my money's worth. I get to hit the ball more times than the average golfer!

only avenue at this time is to file an appeal to the Director of DRS—that option has little chance of success. A couple of weeks ago, I had a phone call from the “wife” of a Spokane County Deputy Sheriff. She wanted to know if it included a common-law wife. She was concerned because she does not think her long-time partner will marry her if it means any adjustment of his pension benefit. A foolish position, as the benefit decrease is minimal compared to the cost of a life insurance policy adequate to cover the benefit. All I could do was to congratulate her on a forthcoming marriage.

I mention this to again remind you of this statute and its requirements. **Your DRS (Department of Retirement Services) Account.** If you have not yet done so, it is important to register with DRS and login to your account. It is easy to do. Just go to <https://drslogin.drs.wa.gov/>. At that page you can login if you have already registered or walk through the steps to register. It is straightforward, but get help if you have any problems. Once you are registered, you can check your DRS account and how many service-month credits you have, how you earned them and if you have a beneficiary listed and who that person is. This is important stuff, so be sure to do it. Folks have coasted by without checking and have experienced real problems when they later found their information was not correct.

## 2022 Retired Officers' Banquet

### 78<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL RETIRED OFFICERS' BANQUET

**Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at The Nile Shrine Center, 6601 SW 244<sup>th</sup> Street Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043**

Tickets are required for everyone. Current RSPOA members will be provided a ticket without charge.

**Spouse and guest tickets are \$30.00 each.**

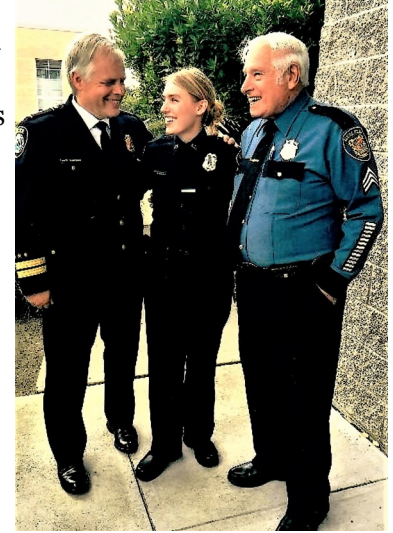
Contact John Nordlund or Nick Bulpin to secure tickets. **John Nordlund: 425-482-9722 or Nick Bulpin: 206-919-6425**

***Please reserve your tickets by Friday 10/7/22***

A. My Grandkids, my farm and attending RAP.

### Q. Tell us about your family?

A. My wife, Faye and I were married in 1953! My Son, Mike, was an SPD Assistant Chief, now retired and teaching school in Federal Way. His Daughter, Cari, is now a Police Officer in Algonia, Washington. My Daughter, Kathy, was an SPD 911 dispatch operator and then trainer for 10 years. My son Joe is the current Fire Chief in Kirkland Washington. My third son, Bill, is the Current Postmaster in Rolling Bay on Bainbridge Island.




### Q. What do you miss most about being on SPD?


A. The friendship and fellowship of the people you get to know. Friendships that are lifelong, people you shared life experiences with that tie you to them and are not had in any other position in life. The satisfaction you get when you solve a case and can tell the victims that the case has been settled (something I always did).

**THANKS JOE FOR THE INTERVIEW!**




Joe & his son, Mike.





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**Fallen SPD Officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the months of August and September.**



**AUGUST**

|                      |           |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Harold E.S. Williams | 8-21-1931 |
| Joselito A. Barber   | 8-13-2006 |

**SEPTEMBER**

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Albert C. Shaneman  | 9-14-1913 |
| Matthias H. Rude    | 9-24-1910 |
| Edwin Wilson        | 9-24-1919 |
| Robert L. Litsey    | 9-25-1924 |
| Lyle F. Tracy       | 9-8-1928  |
| Emory R. Sherard    | 9-15-1928 |
| Eugene W. Perry     | 9-12-1930 |
| Walter G. Cottle    | 9-29-1930 |
| Ralph H. Ahner      | 9-13-1932 |
| David P. Richards   | 9-1-1967  |
| Dorian L. Halvorson | 9-24-1976 |

# Editor's Corner

By Rich O'Neill  
SPD Retired #4451

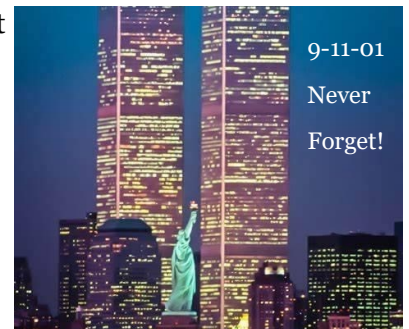
I hope everyone has enjoyed the summer. We've had some nice weather and here it is September and the Mariners are still in the playoff picture! My old squad mate, Roger Lutz, used to say that the Mariners motto should always be, "Wait, until next year!" We will have to see if they prove Roger wrong this fall and finally get to the World Series.

Two big events coming up. First is the **September RSPOA Meeting on Wednesday, September 14, 11:30 A.M.** at The Nile Country Club in Mountlake Terrace. The guest speaker will be **Seattle Mayor Bruce Harrell**. I hope as many people attend as possible! We all have questions as to what is going on with the police department and the rampant crime in the city. They are also in the midst of a search for a police chief. Hopefully, our respectful questions will be answered directly from the guy who is in charge! So that we can have enough food on hand, please let Nick Bulpin know if you will be attending.

The next big event is the **78<sup>th</sup> Annual Retired Officers Banquet** which will be on **Wednesday October 12<sup>th</sup>** at The Nile Country Club. The doors will open at 5pm. My brother, retired Officer Kevin O'Neill, will be the emcee. Last year, the sound system was great and everyone could hear the presentations and enjoyed the evening. We will be recognizing all of those who have retired since the last banquet. As always, we will also recognize the three lowest serial numbers who are in attendance. Finally, we will solemnly honor all of those who have passed away since last year. More than anything, it is a fun night to reminisce and catch up with old friends over some delicious food and a few "libations!" EVERYONE must have a ticket. Reserve your ticket by calling or emailing John Nordlund at 425 482 9722 ([jkenneth2909@gmail.com](mailto:jkenneth2909@gmail.com)) or Nick Bulpin at 206-919-6425 ([bulpin@comcast.net](mailto:bulpin@comcast.net)).

If your RSPOA dues are up to date, your ticket will be FREE. Guests and spouse tickets are only \$30 per person. **Reserve your tickets by Friday, October 7th.**

I hope to see many of you at the events coming up in







## RSPOA

C/O Nick Bulpin  
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**Mike Burns**  
MLO - 320428  
Retired SPD Officer, SPF Board Member  
Crime Stoppers Law Enforcement Liaison

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